

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

re application of:
Cole, et al.

Serial No. 10/018,023

Filed: December 10, 2001

For: FEMORAL INTRAMEDULLARY ROD
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Group Art Unit: 3732

Examiner: Unknown

Attorney/Docket No. 31181.26
Customer No. 27683

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner For Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:


In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, and in accordance with the practice under 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed modified Form PTO-1449. No inference should be made that the cited references are in fact material, are in fact prior art, or that no better art exists. The cited patents are listed in numerical order and are not in any order based on their pertinence. Copies of the listed documents are included in earlier related application number 09/619,189, now patent number 6,402,753 and application number 09/329,688, now patent number 6,221,074.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the United States filing date or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required (37 CFR §1.97(b)).

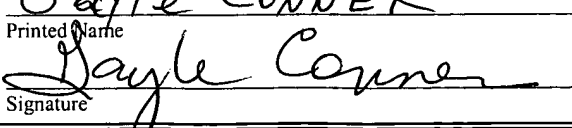
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 08-1394.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Respectfully submitted,


J. Andrew Lowes
Registration No. 40,706

Date: 6/26/02
HAYNES AND BOONE, LLP
901 Main Street, Suite 3100
Dallas, Texas 75202-3789
Telephone: 972-739-7557
Facsimile: 972-692-9069
File: 31181.26
R-24594.1

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